

**Calendar No. 389**

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**S. RES. 182**

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should allocate significantly more resources to combat global poverty.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

NOVEMBER 16, 2001

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CORZINE, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

MAY 23, 2002

Reported by Mr. BIDEN, with an amendment, an amendment to the preamble, and an amendment to the title

[Strike out the preamble and all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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**RESOLUTION**

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should allocate significantly more resources to combat global poverty.

Whereas the World Bank estimates that 1,200,000,000 people in the world live on less than \$1 a day, and of these, more than 550,000,000 are in South Asia, which is 40 percent of the South Asian population, and more than 290,000,000 are in sub-Saharan Africa, which is approximately 50 percent of the sub-Saharan population;

Whereas 3,000,000,000 people, about half the world's population, live on approximately \$2 a day;

Whereas 1,200,000,000 people lack access to safe drinking water;

Whereas 2,900,000,000 people have inadequate access to sanitation;

Whereas at least 1,000,000,000 people in developing nations are unemployed or underemployed;

Whereas according to a Congressional Budget Office report entitled "The Role of Foreign Aid in Development", United States spending on foreign assistance has fluctuated from year-to-year but has been on a downward path since the 1960's;

Whereas in 1962, more than 3 percent of the Federal budget was spent on foreign assistance;

Whereas in 2001, foreign assistance amounts to 0.79 percent of the Federal budget, less than half of what it was 15 years ago, and less than a third of what it was 40 years ago;

Whereas United States foreign economic and development assistance represents less than 0.60 percent of the Federal budget;

Whereas United States foreign assistance amounts to only slightly more than 0.10 percent of Gross Domestic Product, or approximately \$30 per American citizen per year;

Whereas according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United States in recent years has ranked next to last among 21 industrialized donor countries in per capita foreign assistance spending; and

Whereas reducing poverty, promoting equitable economic growth, and developing democratic institutions advances United States national security interests, and the failure to address these issues, and the resulting social, economic, and political instability and violence, places United States national security interests and the welfare and safety of United States citizens at risk. Now, therefore, be it

*Whereas the World Bank estimates that 1,200,000,000 people in the world live on less than \$1 a day, and of these, more than 550,000,000 are in South Asia, which is 40 percent of the South Asian population, and more than 290,000,000 are in sub-Saharan Africa, which is approximately 50 percent of the sub-Saharan population;*

*Whereas 3,000,000,000 people, about half the world's population, live on approximately \$2 a day;*

*Whereas 1,200,000,000 people lack access to safe drinking water;*

*Whereas 2,900,000,000 people have inadequate access to sanitation;*

*Whereas at least 1,000,000,000 people in developing nations are unemployed or underemployed;*

*Whereas President Bush, by announcing the establishment of a Millennium Challenge Account committed the United States to spending significantly more money on foreign assistance beginning fiscal year 2004;*

*Whereas United States foreign assistance amounts to approximately \$30 per American citizen per year, not including the President's recently announced increases;*

*Whereas according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United States in recent years*

*ranks next to last among 21 industrialized donor countries in per capita foreign assistance spending;*

*Whereas economic assistance can only be effective if it is linked to sound policies in developing nations;*

*Whereas open markets and free trade are important forces for economic development and poverty reduction;*

*Whereas the United States is a top importer of goods from developing countries, importing \$450,000,000,000 in 2000 which was 8 times greater than all official development assistance to developing countries from all donors;*

*Whereas the United States is the top source of private capital to developing countries, averaging \$36,000,000,000 annually between 1997 and 2000; and*

*Whereas reducing poverty, promoting equitable economic growth, and developing democratic institutions advances United States national security interests, and the failure to address these issues, and the resulting social, economic, and political instability and violence, places United States national security interests and the welfare and safety of United States citizens at risk: Now, therefore, be it*

1       *Resolved,*

2       *That it is the sense of the Senate that—*

3           (1) ~~widespread poverty in developing nations~~  
 4       ~~contributes to social, economic, and political insta-~~  
 5       ~~bility and violence which can lead to failed states~~  
 6       ~~and the conditions in which terrorist recruitment~~  
 7       ~~and terrorist organizations flourish;~~

8           (2) ~~United States bilateral assistance programs~~  
 9       ~~and contributions to multilateral assistance pro-~~

grams must be robust enough to effectively address development needs;

(3) the United States, the world's wealthiest, most powerful Nation, in order to promote its humanitarian, economic, and security interests around the world, should increase foreign assistance spending by at least 25 percent per year for the next 5 years, and with the goal of reaching an amount equal to or exceeding 3 percent of the Federal budget by 2010; and

(4) the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development should—

(A) conduct a top-to-bottom evaluation of current foreign assistance efforts to evaluate effectiveness;

(B) work with private voluntary organizations, foundations, and corporations to identify areas where increased, targeted foreign assistance could help reduce poverty, and promote equitable economic growth and the development of democratic institutions; and

(C) not later than 6 months after the date of adoption of this resolution, submit a report to the appropriate committees in Congress describing the Administrator's findings and rec-

1           ommendations for foreign assistance funding  
 2           and policies to reduce poverty, and promote eq-  
 3           uitable economic growth and the development of  
 4           democratic institutions.

5           *That it is the sense of the Senate that—*

6           (1) *widespread poverty in developing nations*  
 7           *contributes to social, economic, and political insta-*  
 8           *bility and violence which can lead to failed states and*  
 9           *the conditions in which terrorist recruitment and ter-*  
 10          *rorist organizations flourish;*

11          (2) *United States bilateral assistance programs*  
 12          *and contributions to multilateral assistance programs*  
 13          *must be robust enough to effectively address develop-*  
 14          *ment needs;*

15          (3) *the United States, as the world's wealthiest,*  
 16          *most powerful nation, should build on the idea behind*  
 17          *President Bush's proposal for the Millennium Chal-*  
 18          *lenge Account and increase foreign assistance spend-*  
 19          *ing by at least 25 percent for the next 5 years with*  
 20          *the goal of reaching an amount equal to or exceeding*  
 21          *3 percent of the Federal budget by 2010 in order to*  
 22          *promote its humanitarian, economic, and security in-*  
 23          *terests around the world; and*

24          (4) *the Administrator of the United States Agen-*  
 25          *cy for International Development should—*

1           (A) conduct a top-to-bottom evaluation of  
2           current foreign assistance efforts to evaluate ef-  
3           fectiveness;

4           (B) work with private voluntary organiza-  
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6           areas where increased, targeted foreign assistance  
7           could help reduce poverty and promote equitable  
8           economic growth and the development of demo-  
9           cratic institutions; and

10          (C) not later than 6 months after the date  
11          of adoption of this resolution, submit a report to  
12          the appropriate committees in Congress describ-  
13          ing the Administrator's findings and rec-  
14          ommendations for foreign assistance funding and  
15          policies to reduce poverty and promote equitable  
16          economic growth and the development of demo-  
17          cratic institutions.

18          Amend the title so as to read: "A resolution express-  
19          ing the sense of the Senate that the United States must  
20          allocate significantly more resources to combat global pov-  
21          erty and that the President's decision to establish the Mil-  
22          lennium Challenge Account is a step in the right direc-  
23          tion."

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## **RESOLUTION**

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